

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/708,123

Examiner

Alessandro V. Amari

Applicant(s)

SCHMIDT ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/28/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas Donohue on 28 April 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-10.

In claim 11, line 13, after the phrase " a second proportion image" add the word --view--.

In claim 19, line 16, after the phrase " a second proportion image" add the word --view--.

Terminal Disclaimer

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 28 February 2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of any patent granted on Application Number 10/908038 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 11-22 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 11 and 19 are allowable over the prior art for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, "a dome lens conforming to said base, said dome lens comprising a major axis tip portion formed by dividing said ellipsoid across a major axis, said dome lens generating a first proportion image view and a second proportion image view, said first proportion image view generating smaller image proportions than said second proportion image view, said first proportion image view positioned at an ellipsoid tip point" as set forth in the claimed combination. Claims 12-18 are allowable based upon their dependence on claim 11 and claims 20-22 are allowable based upon their dependence on claim 19.

The prior art of record, Schmidt et al US 4,436,372 teaches a mirror assembly comprising a base which has a first base portion defined by a first base longitudinal line and a first base periphery, said first base portion having a first base radius of curvature; and a second base portion defined by said first base longitudinal line and a second base periphery, said base portion having a second base radius of curvature. However, the prior art of record does not teach that the dome lens comprises a major axis tip portion formed by dividing said ellipsoid across a major axis, said dome lens generating a first proportion image view and a second proportion image view, said first proportion image view generating smaller image proportions than said second proportion image view, said first proportion image view positioned at an ellipsoid tip point and there is no motivation or teaching to modify this difference as derived. The '372 reference teaches that its mirror is formed by slicing the ellipsoid parallel to the major axis (designated as x) thereby slicing off the long-side of the ellipsoid and not the tip as claimed by the

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Applicant (clearly defined by the instant invention in paragraph 0018 and in Figure 4, as splitting across the major axis—not parallel as in '372).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alessandro V. Amari whose telephone number is (571) 272-2306. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on (571) 272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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29 April 2006

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